



## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

### 24-HOUR REPORT

4 FEBRUARY 2021

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#### (U) CALIFORNIA

##### (U) Anaheim – FBI Raids Homes of Two Men Who Held Rally on Eve of Capitol Attack

(U) The FBI recently raided the homes of two men who sponsored an invective-laced rally near the US Capitol a day before the deadly insurrection, the first known search warrants involving people who organized and spoke at rallies preceding the attack. An FBI spokeswoman confirmed that federal agents executed these search warrants at two properties in Orange County, which public records indicate belong to Russell Taylor and Alan Hostetter. The two men run the American Phoenix Project, which co-sponsored a pro-Donald Trump rally near the Supreme Court on 5 January. Neither man has been charged with any crimes.

SOURCE: 3 February 2021, [CNN](#)

##### (U) Riverside – 64 Arrested, Two Women Rescued in Anti-Human Trafficking Operation

(U) Riverside County law enforcement made 64 arrests over the course of four days during an anti-human trafficking operation, authorities announced Tuesday. The arrests were part of Operation Reclaim and Rebuild, an annual effort by federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to combat sexual slavery and human trafficking in California. The statewide operation seeks to rescue victims and apprehend their captors, according to a Riverside County Sheriff's Department news release.

SOURCE: 2 February 2021, [KTLA](#)

##### (U) San Jose – Armed Man Threatening to 'Shoot Up' Mall Arrested

(U) A man with a loaded gun was arrested Wednesday afternoon at a California mall after he live-streamed on Snapchat that he wanted to "shoot up" the mall, police said. The man, who had dark clothing and distinctive purple shoulder-length hair, was tracked to the Westfield Valley Fair Mall and arrested about 45 minutes after the threats were reported to the Police Department by the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office, San Jose police spokesman said. Police officers "went through the mall, locating the suspect, ultimately taking him into custody without incident."

SOURCE: 4 February 2021, [AP](#)

#### (U) NATIONAL

##### (U) Florida – Long Beach Man Caught with 22-Pounds of Crystal Meth at Florida Airport

(U) Orlando – A California man is facing drug trafficking charges after TSA agents at Orlando International Airport caught him trying to board a plane with 22-pounds of crystal methamphetamine. Eli Priestly Brown, 46, of Long Beach, was preparing to board a plane when an agent conducted a random search of his bag. The agents opened his backpack and found several clear bags with a crystal-like substance inside, according to an arrest affidavit. The substance tested positive for meth and was valued at more than \$500,000.

SOURCE: 3 February 2021, [AP](#)

##### (U) Mississippi – Mississippi Officer Fatally Shot in Line of Duty

(U) Diamondhead – On 1 February, Joseph Michael Rohrbacker fatally shot Hancock County Lieutenant

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Michael Boutte while responding to a disturbance call of an attempted suicide at a home North of Diamondhead. The suspect sustained non-fatal gunshot wounds and remains hospitalized. Lieutenant Boutte served 20-years in law enforcement and was an Air Force veteran.

SOURCE: 3 February 2021, [WGNO](#)

### **(U) Washington – US Charges Seattle-based Proud Boys Member for Role in Capitol Riots**

(U) Seattle – The US Justice Department arrested a top member of the Seattle chapter of the far-right Proud Boys group on Wednesday, charging him over his alleged role in storming the US Capitol on 6 January. Prosecutors said that 30-year-old Ethan Nordean, also known as Rufio Panman, could face up to 20-years in prison if he is convicted on a charge of impeding an official government proceeding. He also faces other charges, including aiding and abetting.

SOURCE: 3 February 2021, [Reuters](#)

## **(U) INTERNATIONAL**

### **(U) Belgium – Iranian Diplomat Sentenced to 20-Years for Foiled Bomb Plot in France**

(U) Antwerp – A Belgian court sentenced an Iranian diplomat to 20-years in prison for plotting a bomb attack against a gathering of Iranian dissidents outside Paris in 2018. Assadollah Assadi, a counselor at Iran's embassy in Vienna, was convicted today of organizing the foiled attack that targeted a rally held by the National Council of Resistance of Iran, an umbrella opposition group dominated by the People's Mujahedeen Organization of Iran, or MEK. The court in Antwerp sentenced three other Iranians to 15, 17, and 18-years respectively in prison for collusion, concluding that Iranian state intelligence had ordered the plot. "The attack plan was conceived in the name of Iran and under its leadership," the Belgian state security service VSSE said to the public prosecutor last year. Assadi is the first Iranian diplomat convicted for terrorism in Europe in a case that has strained Iranian relations with the EU.

SOURCE: 3 February 2021, [K24 News](#)

### **(U) Brazil – Brazilian Nuclear Power Subsidiary Reports Ransomware Attack**

(U) Sao Paulo – A nuclear power subsidiary of Brazil's Eletrobras suffered a cyberattack but no operations were impacted, the state-controlled power holding company said. The network that was attacked by ransomware is not related to the operational systems of nuclear energy plants Angra 1 and Angra 2, said Eletrobras. Subsidiary Eletronuclear has suspended use of some of its administrative software to protect its data, the company said in the filing. It said the incident is under investigation by government entities responsible for nuclear power security.

SOURCE: 4 February 2021, [Reuters](#)

### **(U) Canada – Canada Declares Proud Boys and 13 Other Neo-Nazi Groups a Terrorist Entities**

(U) Toronto – Canada named the far-right Proud Boys a terrorist entity on Wednesday on the grounds that it openly supports violence and played a "pivotal role" in the attack on the US Capitol on 6 January that left five people dead. Canada's public safety ministry said the Proud Boys "openly encouraged, planned, and conducted violent activities against those they perceive to be opposed to their ideology and political beliefs." Twelve other groups were added to Canada's list of terrorist entities. Three were neo-Nazi groups, eight were organizations described as affiliates to al-Qa'ida and the Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS), others were Hizbul Mujahideen, a Kashmiri group.

SOURCE: 3 February 2021, [Reuters](#)

### **(U) Ethiopia – Ethiopia Arrests 15 People Suspected of Plotting Attack Against UAE Embassy**

(U) Addis Ababa – Ethiopia has arrested 15 people over a plot to attack the United Arab Emirates' (UAE) embassy in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia's state news agency said on Wednesday. The group was working at

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the direction of a foreign terrorist group, the Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA) reported. An unspecified amount of arms, explosives, and documents were seized during the operation, the agency said. A second group of suspects was planning to attack the UAE's diplomatic mission in neighboring Sudan, the EPA said.

SOURCE: 3 February 2021, [Reuters](#)

### **(U) Iraq – Senior Leader, Other ISIS Member Involved in Baghdad Suicide Bombings Killed in Airstrike**

(U) Baghdad – A senior Iraqi official declared on Tuesday that two of the planners behind the latest explosions in Baghdad were killed in an operation near Baghdad. One of the planners, a senior leader of ISIS, was allegedly responsible for supervising the double bombings along with another ISIS operative, who was responsible for the movement of ISIS operatives and facilitated the transportation of January's two suicide bombers. A spokesman said in a statement that a US-led coalition aircraft conducted an airstrike, based on Iraqi intelligence reports, on an ISIS hideout in Abu Ghraib area. Two more ISIS militants were also killed in the airstrike.

SOURCE: 3 February 2021, [K24 News](#)

### **(U) Pakistan – Terror Alert Issued for Karachi Due to Possible Attacks Targeting Key Installations**

(U) Karachi – The National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) has issued a terror alert for Karachi, media reported Wednesday. NACTA has warned that foreign backed attackers have planned to target key installations. The institution conveyed the threat alert to Sindh police and other city authorities, who recommended extreme vigilance and heightened security measures in the port city. NACTA has advised citizens to carry personnel identification documents and report any suspicious activity or objects to authorities.

SOURCE: 3 February 2021, [BOL News](#)

### **(U) Turkey – Turkey Arrests High-Ranking ISIS Suspect in Sakarya Province**

(U) Sakarya Province – A high-ranking ISIS suspect was captured by Turkish police teams on Wednesday in northwestern Turkey. The suspect, who was from Jordan, was arrested in an anti-terror operation in the Sakarya province. The suspect was a “so-called deputy education minister” in areas ISIS invaded in Iraq and Syria in 2014 to 2017. The suspect also reportedly killed people he took prisoner in the same areas and published video footage of these actions on social media as part of the group's propaganda.

SOURCE: 3 February 2021, [Anadolu Agency](#)

### **(U) United Kingdom – Man Arrested at London Heathrow Airport on Suspicion of Terrorism Offenses**

(U) London – UK counterterrorism police have arrested a man at Heathrow Airport in London on Wednesday evening. Officers detained the man, who is in his 20s, on suspicion of terrorism offenses after he arrived on a flight from Turkey. A Metropolitan Police spokesman described the operation as “pre-planned.” He was arrested on suspicion of the preparation of terrorist acts, in relation to alleged offenses in Syria, encouragement of terrorism, and dissemination of terrorist publications, according to police. The British national is now in custody at a south London police station.

SOURCE: 4 February 2021, [EuroWeekly](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-636-2900.**

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